

Between innovation and conservation

The narrow path of UI design for the DSE



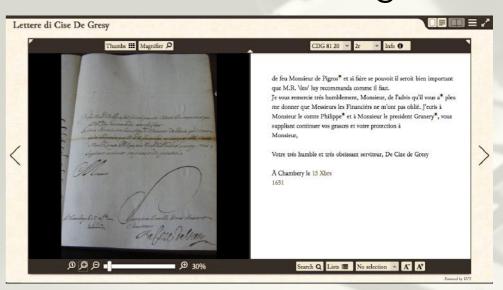
The starting point: Edition Visualization Technology v.1



Digital Vercelli Book



Codice Pelavicino Digitale



Lettere di Cise De Gresy

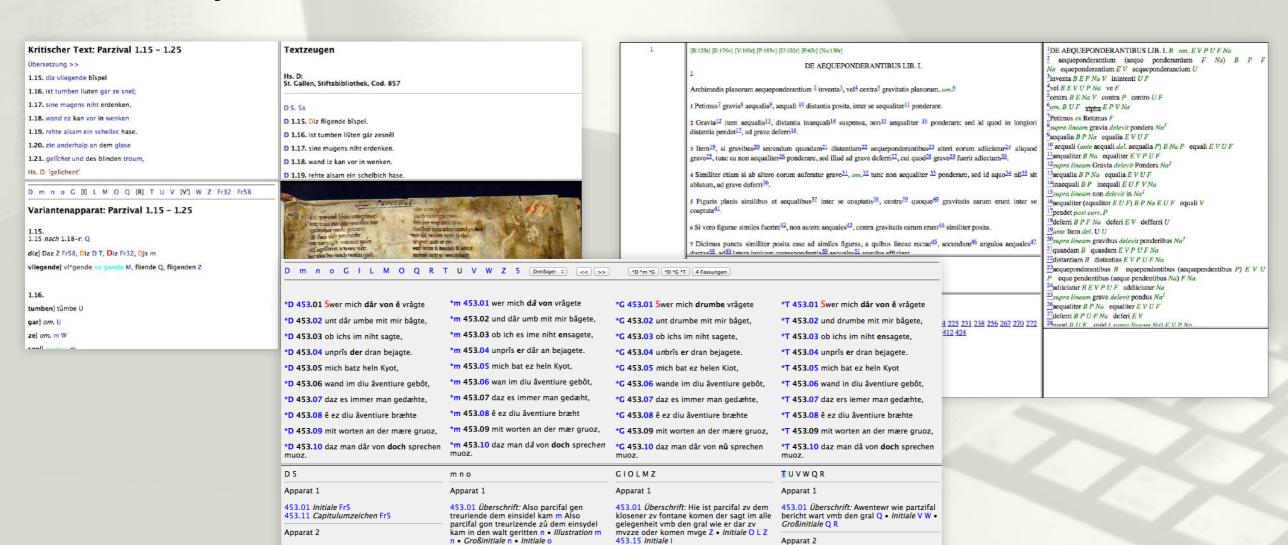
Making EVT a general purpose tool

- New feature requests from other projects
- Natural evolution path: adding support for critical editions
- Problem no. 1: underlying framework less expandable and flexible than we thought
- Problem no. 2: the UI had to be re-designed to accommodate critical edition features
 - Requiring flexibility and expandability



Preparation phase

 But before doing the UI redesign we did a thorough state of the art survey.



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453.04 der 1 er Fr5

453.10 doch] nv Fr5

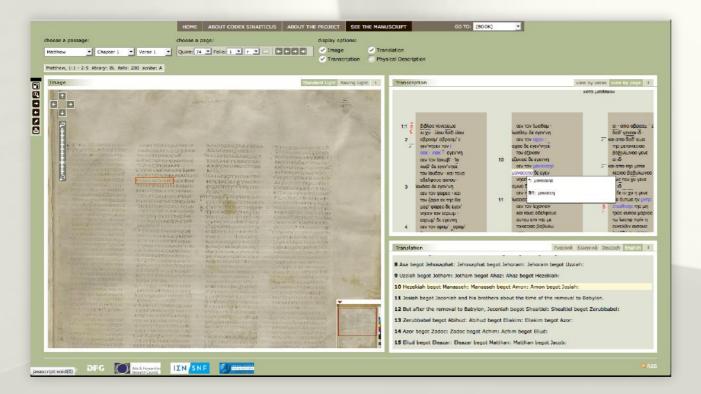


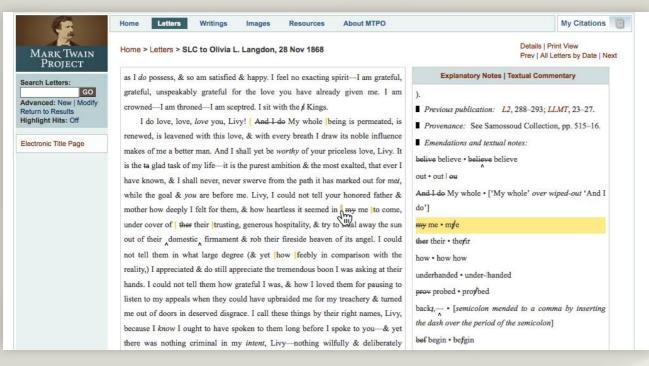
Note

Preparation phase (2)

Metadati

Sender Jacopo Ammannati Piccolomin





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41 - Iacopo Ammannati Piccolomini a Vespasiano. Montegufoni, [1444-1448] ca Medicea Laurenziana, Plut. 90 sup. 30, ff. 23v-24v. coll. 363-364; ed. completa Frati, pp. 357; Cagni, pp. 177-178. lacobus Cardinalis Papiensis

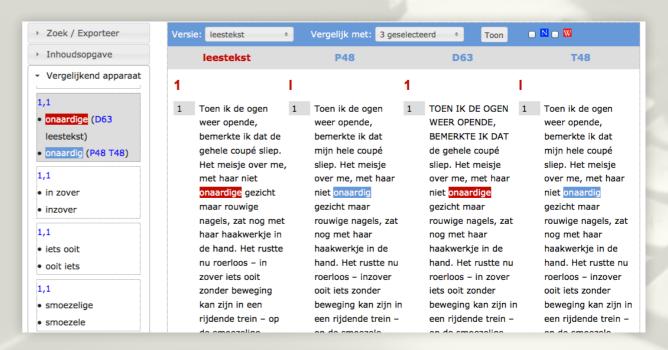
Sepasiano

Sepasiano Carissime frater et cetera. El Phedone di Platone che mi prestasti l'ho già tutto scripto et ricorretto. et l'Ammannati entrò in casa di Neri manchami da scrivere: il perché, pigliando in voi la sicurtà Acciaiuoli, e il 1448, nel quale egli usata, vi priegho charissimamente che adoperiate di farmi avere, se possibile è, il Gorgia overamente l'Epistole sue, o almancho el Thimeo□, s'è traslatato o cioè per messer Leonardo . Sarete cagione ch'io non perda tempo, peroché qua su mi dilecta non meno lo scrivere ch'el nzo ogni cosa ch'io ci fo. Et quanto più presto me 'l manderete. E datelo, per meno vostra faticha, ad Andrea pettinatore , che iajoli de et che forse vi darà questa lettera, perché spesso ci viene

Legnaia mi rachomandate quanto potete. Né altro per

servizio del cardinal Domenico Capranica a Roma (di cui Vespasiano ha tracciato il profilo nelle Vite, p. 152 (l. 1591), Né deve far difficoltà l'intestazione della lettera, ove lacopo risulta cardinale: cui il codice fu scritto; anche il Perotti ogni cosa. Pregovi m'avisiate se chostà è alchuna cosa di nuovo, et detto "episcopus Sipontinus" peroché tutto mi sarà aceptissimo. Manderè<i>vi de' becchafichi, nell'intestazione delle sue due lettere (lettera 9 e lettera 10), che pure sono del Ma in questo anno se n'è veduti pochissimi, et maxime qua 1453 e 1454 cinè anteriori di almeno su fra queste montagnuole dove el vento può assai. Harete pertanto patientia, come noi. Le proferte del venire a vederci son facte già più volte; el mettere ad executione Salutate per mia parte Jacopo de' Rossi a et Domenico di

Carlo , et in primis il mio Ser Pellegrino . Et a Goro da "lacobus Cardinalis Papiensis"

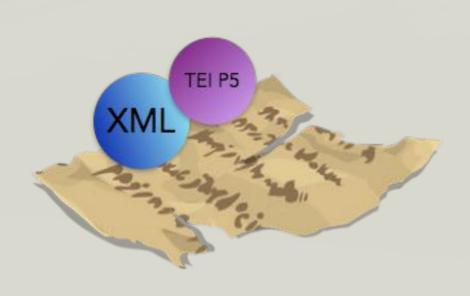


State of the art survey – Results

- Conservatism in first DSEs
- Experiments in new UI paradigms
- Innovation/Experimentation positive and necessary, but entails problems with current DSEs
- Was the initial conservatism completely negative?
 Or can we learn a lesson from it?

EVT 1 - Before the refactoring

- Two main units:
 - EVT Builder: chain of XSLT 2.0 transformations
 - EVT Viewer: web application for the visualization into a browser of the results of the transformations and the interaction with them

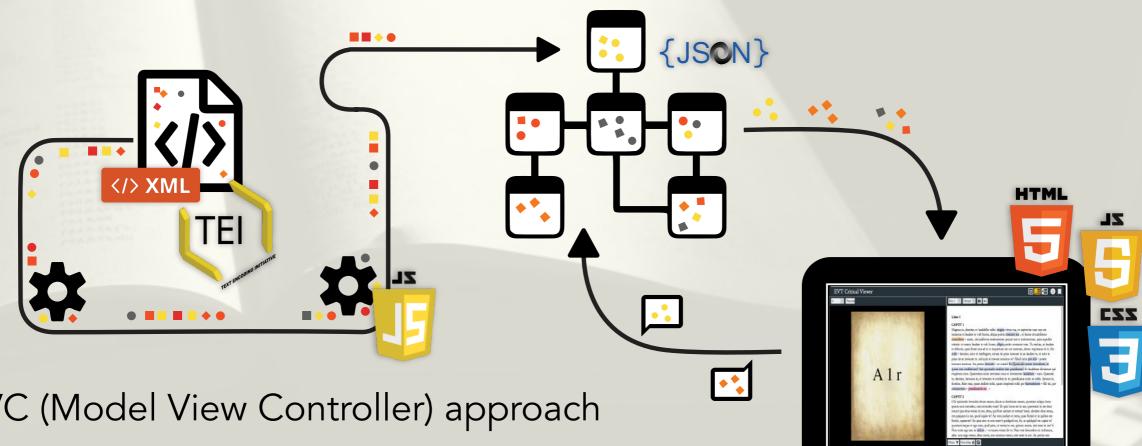


EVT Builder

XSLT
2.0



EVT 2.0 - After the refactoring



- MVC (Model View Controller) approach
 - Data are saved in a JSON model organized in a way that allows a very quick access to the information needed.
- No more XSLT transformations.
- Direct parsing of the XML.

EVT 2.0 - Designing the GUI

- Requirements analysis (features and functionalities)
- Modeling of every single component, highlighting their unique characteristics and modalities of mutual interaction
- Components
 - the critical text
 - the critical apparatus
 - the list of variants
 - the witnesses ...

- Functionalities
 - visualization of textual variation
 - critical apparatus dynamism
 - witnesses collation
 - filter of variants ...

EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus



- To offer the scholar what he/she is used to see in a critical edition (lemma + significant variants + sigla of witness(es))
- Fully exploit of the potentialities of the electronic medium
 - better access to content usually included in a traditional edition
 - possibility to consult what is usually excluded (e.g. orthographic variants)



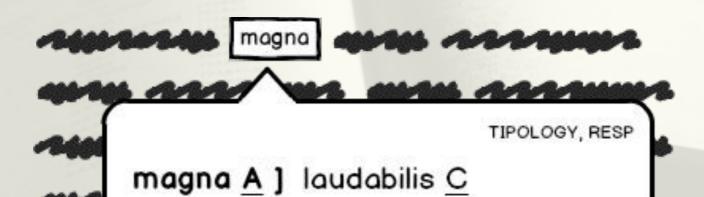
EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus (2)



HOW / WHERE TO VISUALIZE IT?

EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus (3)

SOLUTION 1 - Popup inline



- ▼ Varianti ortografiche
 - · magma B
 - maga E
 - laudablis D

This apparatus entry is an example using "rdgGrp" to group together variants. Here we have two groups, one presenting only spelling mistakes on the same reading as the lemma, while the second group has a different reading (with a spelling mistake for witness D).

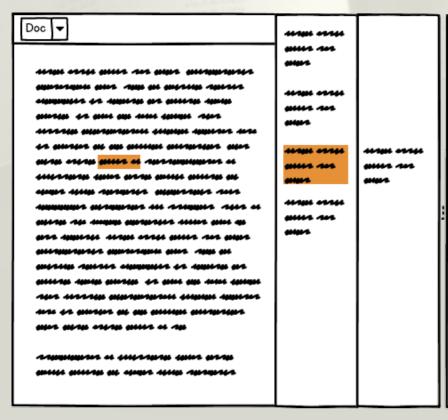
✓ Suitable for very short content

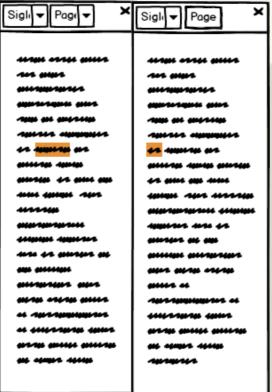
- Limited size
- X It covers the text
- Difficult placement and management in fluid GUI



EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus (4)

SOLUTION 2 - Progressive opening of columns



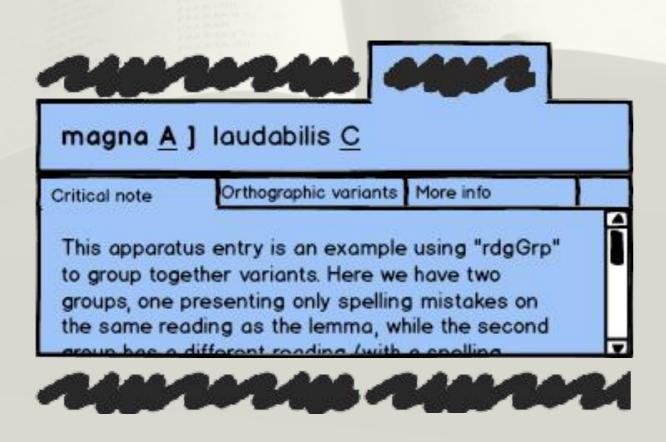


√ The logic function of the placement of the elements remains always clear

- Decrease of the available space where to place other elements
- General confusion in the interaction with the single variant reading

EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus (5)

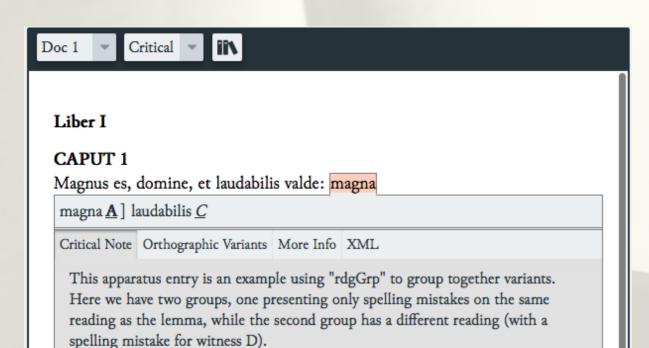
SOLUTION 3 - Inline panel with internal tabs



- √ Text is not covered
- No additional frames
- √ Virtual space quite large
- Clear distinction between traditional apparatus and other information
- Rapid access to additional information (critical notes, orthographic variants, ...)



EVT 2.0 - The critical apparatus (5)



virtus tua, et sapientiae tuae non est numerus. et laudare te vult homo, aliqua portio creaturae tuae • et homo circumferens mortalitem • suam, circumferens testimonium peccati sui et testimonium, quia superbis resistis: et tamen laudare te vult homo, aliqua • portio creaturae tuae. Tu excitas, ut laudare te delectet, quia fecisti nos ad te et inquietum est cor nostrum, donec requiescat in te. Da mihi , • domine, scire et intellegere, utrum sit prius invocare te an laudare te, et scire te prius sit an invocare te. sed quis te invocat nesciens te? Aliud enim pro alio • potest invocare nesciens. An potius invocaris , • ut sciaris? Quomodo

autem invocabunt, in quem non crediderunt? Aut quomodo credent sine praedicante? • Et laudabunt dominum qui requirunt eum. Quaerentes enim inveniunt eum et invenientes laudabunt • eum. Quaeram te, domine, invocans te, et invocem te credens in te: praedicatus enim es nobis. Invocat te, domine,

Magnus es, domine, et laudabilis valde: magna

magna A] laudabilis C

Critical Note Orthographic Variants More Info XML

This apparatus entry is an example using "rdgGrp" to group together variants. Here we have two groups, one presenting only spelling mistakes on the same reading as the lemma, while the second group has a different reading (with a spelling mistake for witness D).

Magnus es, domine, et laudabilis valde: magna

magna A] laudabilis C

Critical Note Orthographic Variants More Info XML

magma <u>B</u>
maga <u>E</u>
laudablis D





EVT 2.0 - The witnesses collation view

- Scalability problem with many witnesses to compare
 - It is impossible to visualize everything at the same time, even on the screen.



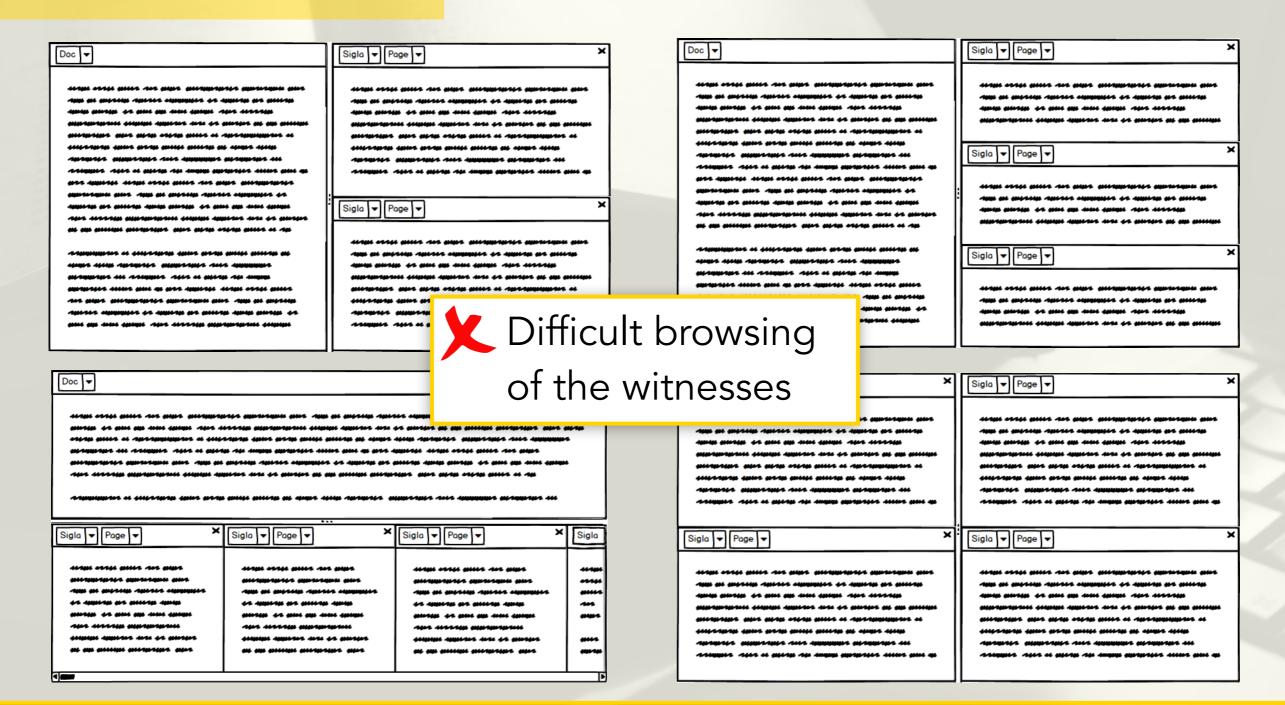
MAIN GOAL:

allow the visualization of as many witnesses as possible, always keeping a neat and clean interface.



EVT 2.0 - The witnesses collation view (2)

INITIAL SOLUTIONS





EVT 2.0 - The witnesses collation view (3)

FINAL SOLUTION

Doc |▼

Page ▼ Page ▼ Sigla Sigla ▼ Sigla |▼ Page un ana ana am



EVT 2.0 - The witnesses collation view (4)

FINAL SOLUTION - Responsiveness

Doc ▼

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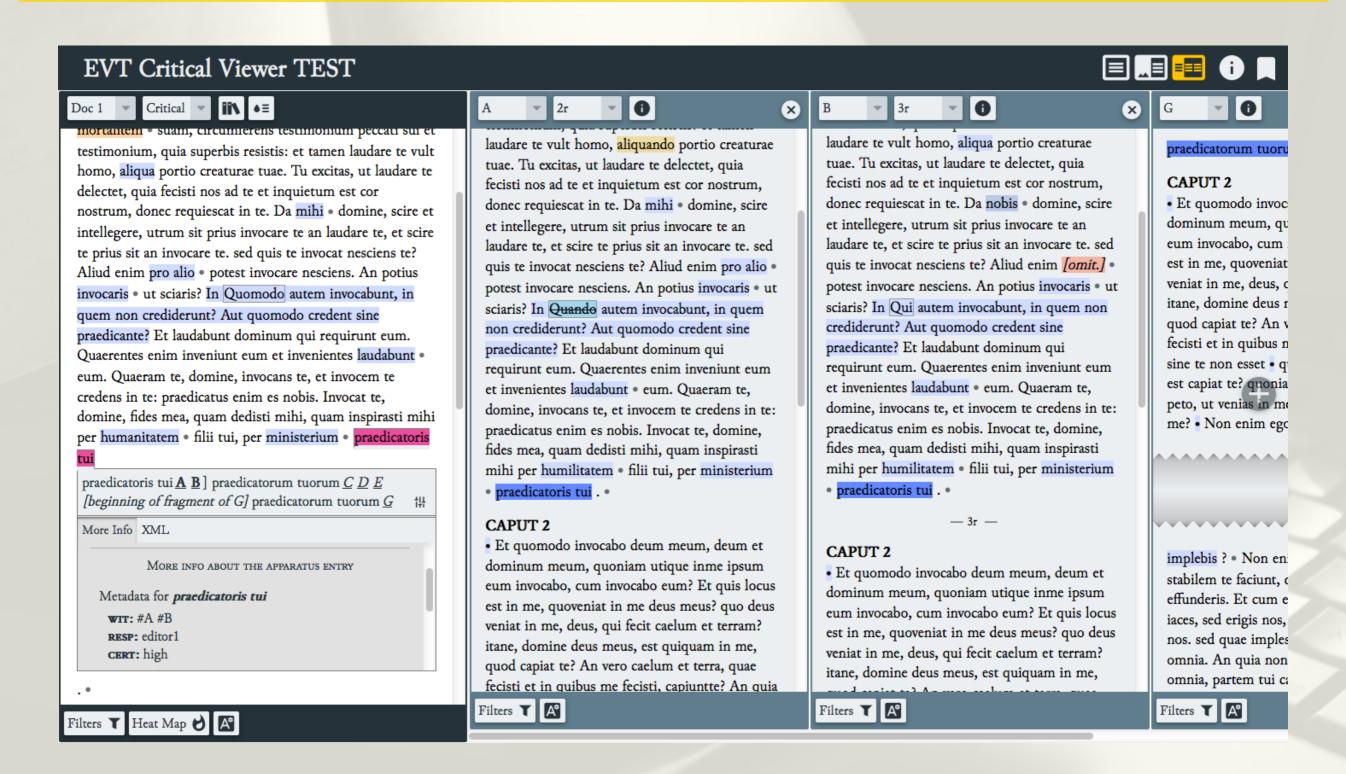
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EVT 2.0 - The witnesses collation view (5)

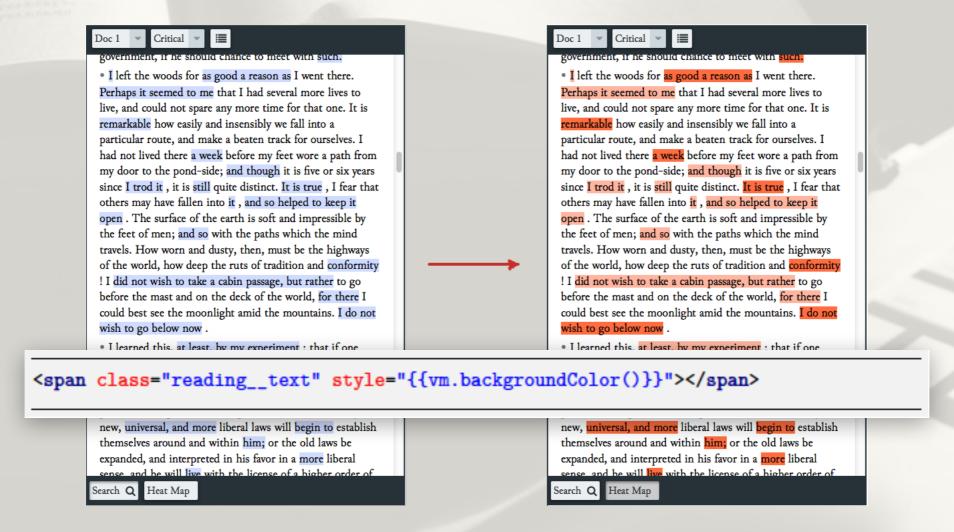




EVT 2 - Main features

Heat map

• Intensity of background color adjusted according to the number of significant variation recorded for the readings.





EVT 2 - Main features (2)

Readings filter

- Select the typologies of readings to be highlighted in the text
- Possible selection values retrieved directly from the encoded file and possibly from some configuration values

```
possibleLemmaFilters : "resp, cert",
possibleVariantFilters : "type, cause, hand",
```

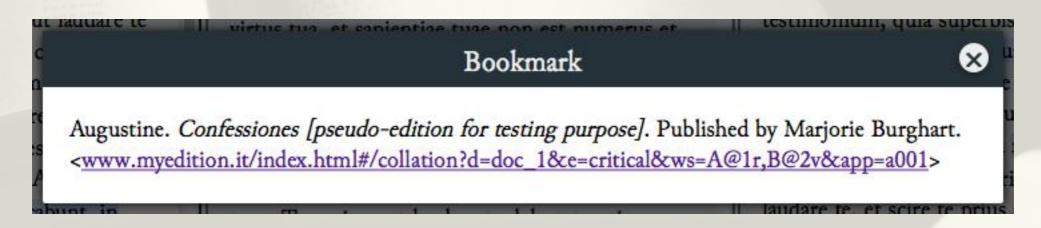


```
<span class="reading_text"
    ng-class="'invisible':!vm.fitFilters()" />
```

EVT 2 - Main features (3)

Bookmark

• Direct reference to a particular view or section of text



View: witnesses collation

Current document: doc_1

Current edition level: critical

Witnesses visualized: #A p.1r, #B p.2v

Critical entry selected: a001



Conclusion

- Choosing the reasonable compromise:
 - Sometimes "intuitive" really means "familiar"
- Future developments
 - Traditional critical apparatus layout as an option
 - Porting of EVT 1 features into EVT 2
 - Connecting all variant readings to the corresponding images: reliability as "you can see for yourself"

EVT web site: < http://evt.labcd.unipi.it/>

EVT 2 repository: < https://github.com/evt-project/evt-viewer>

Contact email: < < evt. developers@gmail.com >